

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election of Species Requirement because the Office failed to identify all Species in the present application. For example, FIGs. 10A, 10B, and 11, drawn to an optical switch, are not identified in the Restriction Requirement. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Requirement to correctly identify that claims 1-3, 17, and 19 are generic to each of Species I-V, claims 16-17, 19-23, 27-37, and 43-47 are generic to Species IV and V, and respectfully request that all Species in the present application (i.e., in addition to the alleged Species I-VI) be identified for consideration on the merits.

As noted in the Requirement, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. Accordingly, upon allowance of any of generic claims 1-3, 17, and 19, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of any additional claims that correspond to specified Species I-VI. In addition, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the unelected claims of the Species I-IV, VI, and additional unidentified Species.

Applicants respectfully request formal examination of this application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 18, 2005

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